

Religion





comparative religion

Concordia University Offers a Complete Array of Day & Evening Courses for Humanities Credit in Such Interesting Subjects As:

Comparative Meditation Techniques: East & West/From Yoga & Zen to New Thought

Comparative Mysticism/In World-Religious Experience & the Study of Religions

Myth, Magic, Reason, & The Occult/From Ancient Egypt, Greece & Rome to the Present

Religion & Psychical Research/ESP-PK, Psychic Healing, Thanatology & Spirit Phenomena

Modern Religious & Atheistic Thought/Theism, Atheism, & Secular Thought-Patterns

Women in Religion/The Feminist Critique, Religion & Sexuality, Women & Myth

Comparative Religious Ethics: East & West/Values of Buddhists, Communists, et al.

World-Religions/A Survey fr. Primitive Religions to World-Religions of East & West

Hinduism/& The Religions of India, Ceylon, & S.E. Asia, Ancient & Modern

Buddhism/& The Religions of China, Japan, & Tibet, Ancient & Modern

Islam/From the Rise of Islam to Medieval Mysticism & Modernism in Islamic Cultures

Judaism/Courses in Bible, Talmud, Ancient, Medieval & Modern Jewish History & Culture

Christianity/Courses in New Testament & the History of Christian Thought & Culture

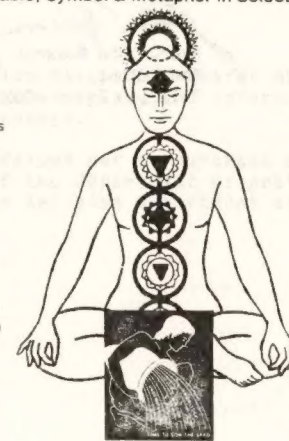
Religion in Canada/Indians & Eskimos, Catholics, Protestants, Jews, & Humanists

Religion & Literature/Myth, Parable, Symbol & Metaphor in Selected Literary Works

And Many Other Courses in the Phenomenology, Literature, History, Philosophy, Psychology, and Sociology of Religion in World Cultures, Ancient & Modern.

These Courses May be Taken either (1) as Single Interest Courses, (2) as Part of Various Joint Honours BA Programs in Religion & History, Philosophy, Sociology, or English, or (3) as Part of an Integrated Honours BA, MA, or PhD Program in Comparative Religion.

Note: If You are not a University Student, You May Enroll in One or More of These Courses as an "Independent Student", Provided that You are Over 21 and Meet the Prerequisites, if Any, for the Course(s) You Choose. All Intelligent Public Applicants Welcomed.



If you are interested in any of these courses or programs, which provide university credits... drop-in now at the religion house, 2050 Mackay Street (above Maisonneuve), ask for a brochure, & leave your name, address, & phone number/or phone 879-7254 or 879-4194/or write:

The Department of Religion
SGW Campus - Concordia University
2050 Mackay Street
Montreal, Que., H3G 1M8
ATTN: Prof. John Rossner



FOREWARD

It is hoped that the special graphics, captions, and topical format of this course guide will make the task of intelligent course selection somewhat easier and more pleasurable for our prospective students and for those who assist at registration.

We who teach in the Department of Religion at S.G.W. Concordia believe that we have something to contribute which is both unique and important to a well-rounded university education in any field. We want to communicate just what we are trying to do in as straightforward and simple a manner as possible.

Our courses and programs center on the story of mankind's great religions, East & West, and upon many areas of contemporary religious and cultural concern, which are both intriguing in themselves and strategic to an understanding of central issues which arise in the pursuit of the arts and sciences today.

We are proud to be a department where high-level scholarship and good teaching are combined to make available to you a balanced and impartial approach to those many sensitive problems of religious and ideological conviction which have - in other places - divided and disturbed the global village. We offer you the following courses and programs in the hope that you will find them both an aid to your education and a personal stimulus toward creativity and growth.

John Rossner
 Prof. John Rossner
 The Editor,
 Religion Course Guide



SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS CAMPUS

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

COURSE GUIDE

1976-77

comparative religion

Undergraduate Programs

This course guide has been prepared months in advance of the 1976/77 academic year, and information contained herein is subject to change.

Students are advised not to purchase any texts without the approval of the department or professor concerned. Please call the Religion Department at 879-4194.





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Legend

Courses with numbers ending in /3 are 6-credit courses.
A course ending in /2 is a 3-credit course, first term.
A course ending in /4 is a 3-credit course, second term.



I. WORLD RELIGIONS

World-Religions/A Survey fr. Primitive Religions to World-Religions of East & West

Religion N213/3 (113)
MAJOR RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS OF THE WORLD
Professor David Miller

T.Th. 11:45-1:00
Mon. 6:15-8:10

The principal aim of this course is to provide the student with a historical and comparative overview of the major living religious traditions of the world. In the first term Hinduism and Buddhism, the Chinese religions, and the new religions of North America will be covered. In the second term Judaism, Christianity and Islam will be studied. Guest speakers representing those religious traditions will give lectures from time to time. Considerable use will be made of films and slides. (6 credits)

Book List:

Robert Baird & Alfred Bloom, Indian and Far Eastern Religious Traditions
Herman Hesse, Siddhartha
Janet K. O'Dea, Thomas F. O'Dea & Charles Adams, Judaism, Christianity and Islam
Rudolf Otto, The Idea of the Holy

Requirements:

Two In-class Examinations (30%)
Two Take-home Examinations (70%)

Hinduism/ & The Religions of India, Ceylon, & S.E. Asia, Ancient & Modern



Religion N311/3 (411)
THE RELIGIONS OF INDIA, CEYLON AND SOUTHEAST ASIA
Professor David Miller

MW 2:10-3:25

The principal aim of this course is to introduce the student to Hindu thought, mythology and religious institutions. Three weeks, however, will be given as an introduction to Buddhist thought, and two weeks will consider the impact of Islam and Christianity on Hinduism (6 credits)

Book List:

Ananda Coomaraswamy and Sister Nivedita, Myths of the Hindus and Buddhists
S. Radhakrishnan and C.A. Moore (ed), A Source Book in Indian Philosophy
Walpola Rahula, What the Buddha Taught
R.C. Zaehner, Hinduism
Heinrich Zimmer, Myths and Symbols in Indian Art and Civilization

Requirements:

One In-Class Examination; One Take-Home Examination;
One Long Research Paper; One Short Research Paper or Creative Project



Buddhism/ & The Religions of China, Japan, & Tibet, Ancient & Modern



Religion N312/3
RELIGIONS OF CHINA AND JAPAN

Not Offered in 1976/77

The primary emphasis will be on Mahayana Buddhism as developed in Tibet, China and Japan. Confucianism, Taoism and Shinto will also be discussed. The approach is multifaceted - an attempt to combine study of the scriptures, the history, the rituals, and the meaning for individuals. (6 credits)



Islam/From the Rise of Islam to Medieval Mysticism & Modernism in Islamic Cultures

Religion N313/3
ISLAM
Professor Sheila McDonough

T.Th 10:15-11:30

The life of the Prophet Muhammad and the teaching of the Qur'an will be dealt with as an illuminating instance of charisma in action. The history of Islam will be dealt with thematically, i.e. the interactions of the Semitic and the Greek, and the impulses to order and to revolution. Islamic mystical poetry will be analyzed. The main characteristics of modernism will be discussed. (6 credits)

Book List:

The Qur'an

Fazlun Rahman, Islam
H.A.R. Gibb, Studies on the Civilization of Islam
A. Reza Arastel, Rumi, The Persian, The Sufi
M. Iqbal, Poems from Iqbal

Requirements:

One In-Class Examination on the Qur'an. One term paper and one final take-home examination.



Christianity/Courses in New Testament & the History of Christian Thought & Culture

Religion N302/4
BIBLICAL STUDIES II: THE NEW TESTAMENT
Professor Michel Despland

Tues. 8:30-10:25
MWF 10:55-11:45

An introduction to the methods and results of contemporary New Testament scholarship; a critical survey of New Testament literature considering historical setting, history of text, religious and cultural significance. Attention is given to the central issues and concepts portrayed in the Synoptic, Johannine and Pauline writings and their importance in the subsequent development of the Western religious tradition. (3 credits)

To this I add that in reading the New Testament you may perhaps hear the gospel which, being good news, is that which answers the most important question. It is, of course, impossible to see this unless one has first come to ask the question. The course will teach a variety of ways of looking at the New Testament in order to learn all kinds of serious things, all of which may miss the question. The ways of looking can be taught; the question cannot.

Book List:

R.A. Spivey and D.M. Smith, Anatomy of the New Testament: A Guide to its Structure and Meaning, Second Edition.

The Bible (The New English Bible or the Revised Standard Version)

Requirements:

On or around the sixth week, there will be an hour's test on Chapters 1-4 of Spivey. There will be a final exam covering the entire work of the course.

Religion N361/3(441)

STUDIES IN THE HISTORY OF CHRISTIAN THOUGHT

Not Offered in 1976/77

An introduction to the classics of Christian thought from the Fathers to the modern period. Authors studied at length may vary from year to year, but in any case students will acquire a basic knowledge of Augustine, Aquinas, Luther and Calvin. (6 credits)

Religion N362/3

QUESTIONS FROM THE CHRISTIAN TRADITION

Martha Saunders Oppenheim

Wed. 6:15-8:10

A consideration of some of the major issues in Christian life and thought. In the first term the course will focus on the historical development of some of the principal Christian doctrines, especially the doctrine of Christ in the early Church; the understanding of sin, freedom and grace in Augustine, Aquinas, and the Reformation thinkers; the concept of the Church in medieval and Reformation Christianity.

In the second term the emphasis will be on 19th and 20th century developments in Christian life and thought. Students will have the option of suggesting topics for discussion under the following headings: (1) recent developments in Christian thought; (2) new forms of Christian life and expression; (3) The Christian churches' responses to contemporary moral issues. (6 credits)

Book List:

First term : Bainton, Christendom, Vols. I & II
Bettenson, Documents of the Christian Church
Cantor & Kline, Medieval Thought: Augustine & Thomas Aquinas
Hillerbrand, The Protestant Reformation
Niebuhr, Christ and Culture

Second Term: Students will select readings from a suggested bibliography relevant to topics to be discussed, including one autobiography of a contemporary Christian and one work by a major contemporary theologian.

Requirements:

Two short papers and a take-home examination each term. With the approval of the instructor, a student may substitute one full-length research paper for the two shorter papers.



JUDAISM



The Department of Religion at S.G.W.-Concordia is the only department of religion in Canada which has integrated a concentrated program in Judaic Studies into its History of Religions curriculum.



Judaism/Courses in Bible, Talmud, Ancient, Medieval & Modern Jewish History & Culture

Religion N222/3

MWF 12:00-12:50

Wed. 6:15-8:10

INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM: A HISTORICAL SURVEY OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE FROM THE BIBLICAL AGE UNTIL THE BEGINNING OF THE MODERN PERIOD
Professor Ehud Luz

Special attention will be paid both to the historical forces that shaped the Jewish tradition, literature and institutions and to the struggle of the Jewish community in Palestine and in the Diaspora for its survival. Topics to be discussed are: Jewish autonomy, the community, religious trends and controversies, Jews and non-Jews, exclusiveness and tolerance, etc. (6 credits)

Books Required:

Ben-Sasson, ed., Jewish Society through the Ages
Ben-Sasson-Etinger, History of the Jewish People
L. Finkelstein, The Jews, Their History and Their Culture

Religion N301/2

MW 2:10-3:45

Tues. 8:30-10:25

INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL STUDIES I: HEBREW BIBLE
Professor Michael Oppenheim

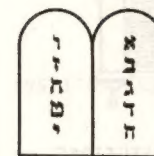
This introductory course seeks to acquaint the student with different ways of gaining insight into the Bible. The history of ancient Israel, and the methods and results of modern biblical scholarship will be studied. The Biblical literature will also be read as ancient Israel's reflection upon her past and present history, the foundation of which is her unique relationship to God. Finally, the student will have the opportunity to confront some of the major religious and philosophical questions that come to life in the Hebrew Bible. (3 credits)

Book List:

John Bright, A History of Israel, The Westminster Press
R.B.Y. Scott, The Relevance of the Prophets, Macmillan & Co.

Requirements:

Understanding the historical and methodological material, as well as showing ability to seriously struggle with the religious and philosophical issues. A mid-term and a take-home final examination will be given.



Religion 201/3
CLASSICAL HEBREW
TBA

Mon 6:15-8:10

A study of the language of the classical Hebrew texts. The course is designed as a preparation for reading the Hebrew Bible, but takes account of other texts. (6 credits)



Religion N325/4

THE BIBLE AND THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST
Professor Marcel Leibovici

Wed. 8:30-10:25

The significance of Old Testament institutions within the context of the ancient Mediterranean world. Law, covenant, writing, historiography, the relationship between man and God, sin, sacrifice and atonements will be discussed. Readings from contemporary literature in translation (Babylonian, Egyptian, Greek, Hittite, Ugarite). (3 credits)

Religion N326/2

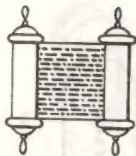
TALMUDIC JUDAISM
Professor Ehud Luz

Wed. 8:30-10:25

The special focus for this year will be on the political, social and religious history of the Jews in the Roman Empire from the conquest of Palestine to the Empire's decline. Special topics to be discussed are: the conflict between the Jews and the Romans in Palestine; the impact of the destruction of the Temple; the restoration of the centre in Jamneh (Yavneh); the Sanhedrin and the presidency; the evolution of the Mishnah and the Talmud; the Jewish Diaspora; the relationships between Palestine and the Diaspora; Jews and Christian in the Empire. (3 credits)

Book List:

M. Grant, The Jews in the Roman World
Ben-Sasson-Etinger, History of the Jewish People, Vol. I.



Religion N327/3
MEDIEVAL JEWISH THOUGHT & INSTITUTIONS

Not Offered in 1976/77

An introduction to the social, religious and intellectual history of selected Jewish communities in the Middle Ages in the Muslim countries, Byzantium and in Europe. Topics include the demography, migration and economic activities of medieval Jewry, the communal structure of self-government, the Crusades, the Church and the Jews persecutions, expulsions and martyrdom, medieval Jewish literature, philosophy, mysticism, Kabbalah and Rabbinic literature. (3 credits)

Religion N401/4
ADVANCED STUDIES IN CLASSICAL JEWISH TEXTS
Professor Alti Rodal

T.Th. 2:45-4:00

The course will be based on representative readings from Biblical, Rabbinic and medieval Hebrew literature. (3 credits)

Book List:

The Song of Songs
Pirge Aboth
Excerpts from Midrash Bereshith Rabbah, Maimonides Meshneh
Torah and selected poems of Ilan Gabirol and Yehudah Halevi.

Religion N329/2
SEPHARDIC JUDAISM
Rabbi Howard Joseph

Mon. 8:30-10:25

A critical analysis of the religious and cultural traditions peculiar to Sephardic Judaism. Emphasis will be placed on the development of Judaism in Islamic societies and the impact of Spanish Jewish Culture on all Middle Eastern Jewry, especially North Africa. (3 credits)

Religion 328/2
MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT & INSTITUTIONS I:
(1780-1880)
Professor Alti Rodal

T.Th. 1:15-2:30
Tues. 6:15-8:10

A survey of the social and intellectual events which have shaped the modern period in Jewish history. Topics include: emancipation and the emergence of the Jewish problem; the themes of integration and assimilation, Jewish identity and Jewish survival; the French Revolution, Napoleon and the Jews; changes in the structure of the Jewish community; social and religious movements, including the Haskalah movement, Hasidism, the Science of Judaism, the Reform movement, the Musur movement and Neoorthodoxy. Particular attention will be given to the interaction between European social, political, economic and intellectual developments and corresponding developments within the Jewish community. (3 credits)

Book List:

H.M. Sachar, The Course of Modern Jewish History
Louis Finkelstein, ed, The Jews (Their History, Their Religion and Culture)

Michael A. Meyer, The Origins of the Modern Jew
Jacob Katz, Tradition and Crisis and Out of the Ghetto
Arthur Hertzberg, The French Enlightenment and the Jews
Martin Buber, Tales of the Hasidim

Religion N330/4
MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT & INSTITUTIONS II: (1880-present)
Professor Michael Oppenheim

T.Th. 1:15-2:30

Tues. 6:15-8:10

The course will focus on the continuing struggle of the modern Jew to find solutions to the problems that arose from the breakdown of the traditional society during the Emancipation. Another focus will be the change in direction that took place in modern Jewish consciousness in the face of modern Nationalism and Anti-Semitism. Formative events such as the rise of Zionism, the Holocaust, and the establishment of the State of Israel will be examined. Modern Jewish thinkers like Rosenzweig, Buber, Kaplan, Heschel and others will be discussed in light of both modern religious man's quest for self-understanding and the attempt of the Jewish individual and community to find a meaningful place in the modern world. (3 credits)

Book List:

A. Hertzberg, The Zionist Idea
F. Rosenzweig, Franz Rosenzweig: His Life and Thought, ed. Glatzer
N. Sachar, The Course of Modern Jewish History
E. Schweid, Israel at the Crossroads

Requirements:

Mid-term examination and take-home final or paper.



Religion N493/4

TOPICS IN SEPHARDIC CULTURE AND LITERATURE
Rabbi Howard Joseph

Mon. 8:30-10:25

We will focus on the study of the philosophy and literature of Sephardic Jews with an emphasis on the Golden Age of Spain. Textual study of Judah Halevi's *Kuzari*, the writings of Maimonides and the work of other leading figures. (3 credits)

Book List:

Maimonides Reader, ed. Twersky.
Kuzari, Judah Halevi

Requirements:

One essay and one take-home examination.

Religion N497/4

TOPICS IN JEWISH HISTORY: THE HOLOCAUST
Professor Alti Rodal

Tues. 8:30-10:25

Focus is on the historical background to the Jewish experience in Nazi-occupied Europe. Topics include a historical introduction to European Jewry; the social, religious and ideological roots of anti-semitism, political and racial anti-semitism, the rise of Hitler and Nazi Germany; world responses to Nazism and persecution of the Jews; the Final Solution and the camps; Jewish responses - Judenrat and Jewish resistance; Holocaust literature.

The course will consist of seminars and lectures incorporating video-taped material and films. Course requirements will consist of class presentations and a written paper.

Book List:

J. Trachtenberg, The Devil and the Jews
P. Massing, Rehearsal for Destruction (1949)
L. Dawidowicz, The War Against the Jews (1975)
R. Hilberg, The Destruction of the European Jews (1967)
G. Mosse, The Crisis of German Ideology
J. Glatstein, Anthology of Holocaust Literature



II. CONTEMPORARY AREAS
OF
RELIGIOUS CONCERN



Religious Experience & the Study of Religions



Religion N211/3
UNDERSTANDING RELIGION
Professor Michael Oppenheim

Th. 6:15-8:10

This year we will be investigating the nature and meaning of religion by examining "personal documents" (journals, memoirs, diaries, and autobiographies) of religious men and women. To aid in the understanding of these documents some classical models of psychological interpretation will be utilized. Some of the topics which will be focal points of our study are: (1) Ways in which "being religious" differentiates some men and women from others (2) differences between Freudian and Jungian interpretations of "the religious personality" (3) self-concepts which seem to predominate in selected "personal documents" (4) interpretations of certain gifted men as "cultural workers", and the relationship between religious aspirations and societal change (5) ways in which "models of religious formation" both differ and coalesce in eastern and western religious traditions.

Book List:

Capps & Capps, eds., The Religious Personality
J. Cambell, The Hero With a Thousand Faces
Erik Erikson, Young Man Luther
S. Kierkegaard, The Journals
M. Gandhi, An Autobiography
Black Elk, Black Elk Speaks

Requirements:

The student is urged to follow the outline of the readings for each week, in order to be able to participate in class discussions.

A written test will be held on the term's work during the last class of each term.

One paper of 10-15 typed pages will be done each term. The student will select a person and read the available "personal documents". It is expected that interpretative models and insights that are discussed in class will be utilized in analyzing the religious development of the selected individual.

Comparative Meditation Techniques: East & West/From Yoga & Zen to New Thought



COMPARATIVE MEDITATION TECHNIQUES: EAST & WEST -
FROM YOGA & ZEN TO NEW THOUGHT

Tues.
8:30-10:25

Religion 491/3
SPECIAL SEMINAR
Topic for 1976-77: Comparative Meditation Techniques:
East and West

Professor John Rossner

Open Enrollment for 1976-77
Special Permission Not Required

This course provides an introduction to classical and contemporary systems and techniques of meditation from world religious traditions, East and West, and from various new-religious and/or scientific sources extant in contemporary society. Among the systems and techniques surveyed in the course will be the following:

- (1) Classical Religious Systems of Meditation - East & West:
The Yogas - Hatha, Raja, Tantra, Jnana, Japa, Mantra, Bhakti, Karma, Purna, Kundalini, etc., and the Philosophy, Psychology and Religious Environment of Classical Vedanta Systems of India.
Buddhist Meditation Systems - the Techniques of Zen & Tantric Buddhism
Classical Christian Systems, Meditational Forms, and Techniques - especially Medieval Western Monastic, Counter-Reformation, and Russian Hesychast Systems.
- (2) Traditional Esoteric and Occult Systems of Meditation - East & West
Taoist Belief-Systems and Meditations
Sufism and Sufi Meditations
Kabalistic and Hasidic Traditions and Techniques
- (3) 19th-20th C. Metaphysical and New Thought Systems and Forms
- (4) New Religious, Neo-Scientific Meditation Movements, including T.M.
- (5) New Religious Groups: - Meditational Practices

- (6) Contemporary Scientific Systems for the Alteration of Consciousness: Hypnosis, Auto-Hypnosis, Biofeedback, etc.
 (7) Humanistic Psychological Approaches to Meditation: Jungian, Psycho-synthesis, etc.
 (8) Contemporary Commercial Psychic Development Programs
 (9) Laboratory Techniques for Induction of "Instant Mysticism", Masters & Houston Research
 (10) Eclectic Approaches to Meditation in a Pluralistic Religious Environment

Format of the Course:

In-class lectures and periodic samplings of meditational exercises will be provided by the instructor and occasional visiting lecturers representing the various systems. Students are expected to attend these classes regularly and to read as broadly as possible in the literature available on or provided by the various meditational systems or groups studied.

Requirements:

Each student will be asked to do a specific year's project in one (or two) of these techniques with the group(s) which teach them and then write a report assessing (1) the particular world-view if any, which accompanies the method, (2) the particular benefits which are claimed for it, and (3) the available scientific research data, if applicable, pertaining to the method, and (4) the personal results obtained by the student and by the group, if any, practising the method.

Evaluation:

There will be one take-home examination on the content of the major systems, methods, or groups surveyed in the course. But the grade will be based primarily upon (1) class participation and (2) the report on the student's practicum in personal study and application of a given system and/or method.

General Reference Works: (A Complete Reference Bibliography Will Be Provided at the First Class Meeting)

The following list is neither required nor exhaustive.

- William Johnston, S.J., Silent Music: The Science of Meditation, New York: Harper & Row, 1974.
 Yogi Ramacharaka, Lessons in Raja Yoga, London: Fowler & Co., 1960
 C. William Henderson, Awakening: Ways to Psycho-Spiritual Growth, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Harper & Row, 1975.
 Nyanaponika Thera, The Heart of Buddhist Meditation, London: Rider & Co., 1969.
 Dom Bede Frost, O.S.B., The Art of Mental Prayer, London, S.P.C.K., 1950.
 John White, Ed., What is Meditation, Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Anchor Books, 1974.



Myth, Magic, Reason, & The Occult/From Ancient Egypt, Greece & Rome to the Present

Religion 364/3

Not Offered in 1976/77

MYTH, MAGIC, REASON & THE OCCULT
 IN THE WESTERN TRADITION

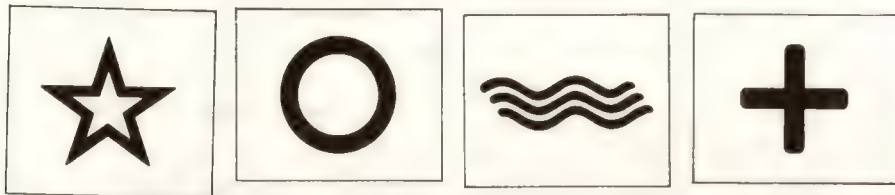
This course will survey the history of claims to the paranormal in human mystical and/or psychical experience from Ancient Egypt, India, Mesopotamia, Greece & Rome, the Bible, Early and Medieval Christianity, the Sufi's and the Kabalistic Tradition through 19th Century Ritual-Magic and Esoteric Philosophical Movements, including the Theosophical Society, to the present.

The various typologies of paranormal religious experience will be viewed phenomenologically in the light of both contemporary insights from psychical research and studies of myth and symbol. The course will explore the philosophical paradigms implicit in ancient and medieval occult traditions and relate these to the development of the classical Western Judeo-Christian religious tradition. These ancient paradigms will then be contrasted with those of the Age of Reason, the Enlightenment, and modern Secular Culture.

Note: This course is an historical survey. A contemporary scientific study of the paranormal in mystical and psychical experience today is provided in Religion N465 as listed on the following page.



Religion & Psychical Research/ESP-PK, Psychic Healing, Thanatology & Spirit Phenomena



RELIGION & PSYCHICAL RESEARCH: ESP-PK, DREAMS, VISIONS, O.B.E.,
PSYCHIC HEALING, THANATOLOGY, & SPIRIT PHENOMENA - ALTERNATIVE
MODELS OF REALITY (6 credits)

Religion N465 MW 3:45-5:00
CLASSICAL AND CONTEMPORARY IMAGES OF MAN Wed. 8:30-10:25
Special Topic for 1976-77: Religion & Psychical Research
Professor John Rossner

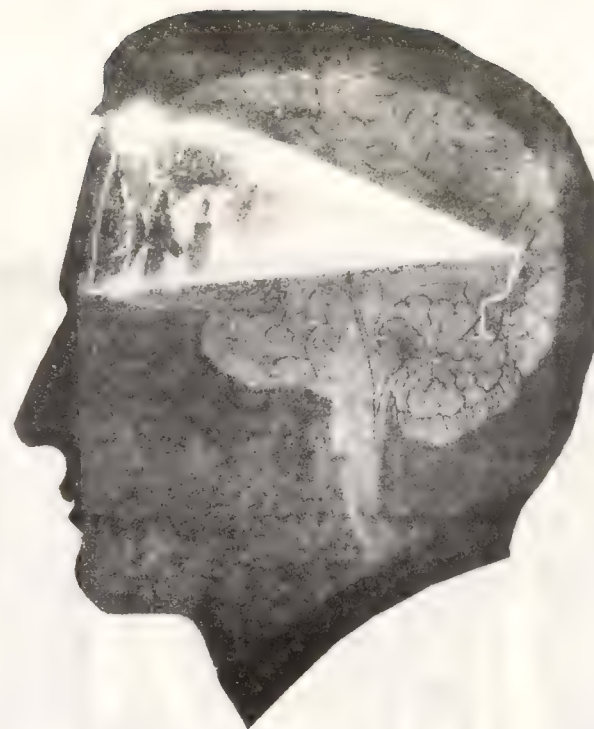
An examination of the scientific data of contemporary psychical research on ESP-PK, dreams, visions, out-of-the-body experience, life-energy fields, PSI energies, psychic and spiritual healing, thanatology and death-related psychical experiences, poltergeist and apparitional phenomena, mediumship and the spirit phenomena of spiritist and Spiritualistic groups in the modern world.

Throughout the course attention will be given to (1) the models-of-reality and images-of-man which contemporary parapsychologists and parapsychists have seen as implicit in this data, (2) the ancient religious and classical metaphysical conceptions of the nature of man and the universe which these models resemble, and (3) the a priori axia and methodological assumptions of Enlightenment science and philosophy to which they would present a challenge.

Requirements:

Regular class attendance and participation, assigned readings, a take-home exam on the ideas and factual content of the course, and either one full-length or two short research project(s) on subject(s) relevant to the course and selected by the student. Research reports may be presented orally to the entire class or submitted to the instructor in standard term-paper format.

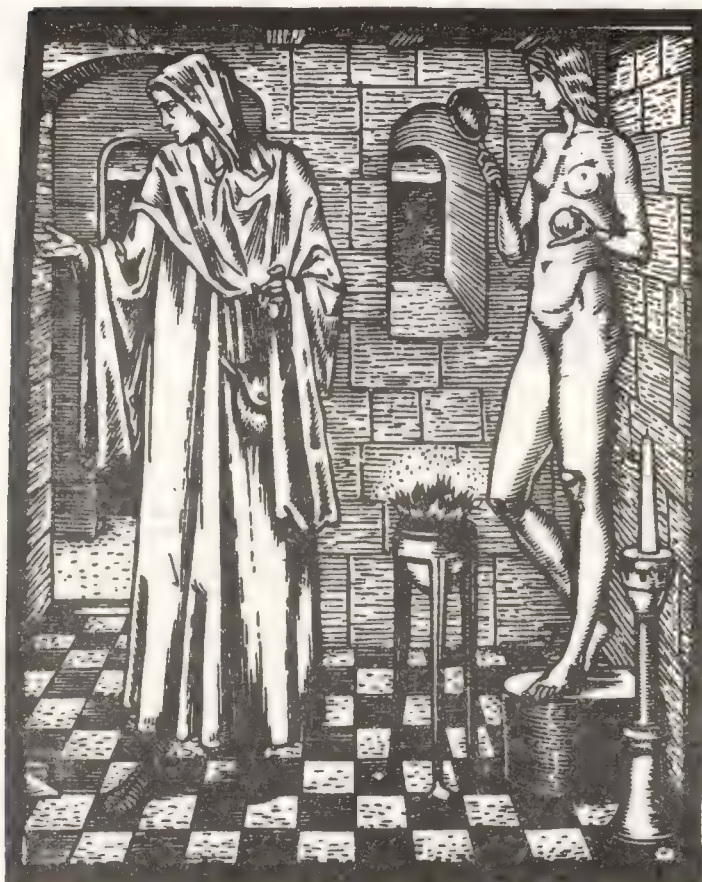
Books: A complete subject-by-subject reference bibliography will be provided and explained at the first class meeting. For the convenience of those students who desire to begin reading earlier, the following list is provided on some of the topics to be covered in the course. Select from among them according to your own interests; they are not all required reading.



- Nils O. Jacobson, M.D., *Life Without Death*, New York: Dell Books, 1974 (A good survey for everyone, available in paperback)
Colin Wilson, *The Occult*, New York: Random House, 1971
George W. Meek, *From Seance to Science*, London: Regency Press, 1973.
Allen Spraggett, *The Case for Immortality*, New York, New American Library, 1974.
Raynor Johnson, *The Imprisoned Splendor*, Wheaton, Illinois: Quest Books, 1971.
Arthur Koestler, *The Roots of Coincidence*, London: Hutchinson, 1972.
M. Ullman, M.D., & S. Krippner, *Dream Telepathy*, Baltimore: Penguin, 1974
Lawrence LeShan: *The Medium, The Mystic & The Physicist*, New York: Viking, 1974
Lyall Watson, *The Romeo Error*, Garden City, New York: Doubleday Anchor, 1974.
Joseph Chilton Pearce, *The Crack in the Cosmic Egg: Challenging Constructs of Mind & Reality*, Richmond Hill, Ontario: Pocket Books, 1972.

Some psychical researchers maintain that communications coming through genuine mediums point clearly to human survival

Women in Religion/The Feminist Critique, Religion & Sexuality, Women & Myth



Religion N333/2
WOMEN IN RELIGION
Professor Sheila McDonough

T.Th.1:15-2:30
Wed. 6:15-8:10

The emphasis will be on selected problems from the history of religion which may help illuminate understanding of the complex interrelationship between religion and sexuality. The focus will be on the ancient Mediterranean and Greece with the Greek plays as the primary source. Topics discussed will include menstruation taboos, fertility-power and threat, the mother goddess, the dying king and the wildness of the Maenads. (3 credits)

Book List:

W. Otto, The Homeric Gods
Mary Renault, The King Must Die
Philip Slater, The Glory of Hera
Any edition of the works of Euripides, Aeschylus or Aristophanes

Requirements:

An in-class exam will be given on The King Must Die. Each student must be prepared to discuss one play in class. A final take-home examination will be given.

Religion N334/4
WOMEN IN RELIGION
Professor Sheila McDonough

T.Th.1:15-2:30
Wed. 6:15-8:10

The emphasis will be on Judaism and Christianity. There will be a full discussion of the various ideas about women's ultimate fate and earthly role as presented in the Jewish and Christian scriptures. The Talmud, the early fathers, the Reformation and the modern period will also be considered. Some reference will be made to other world religions. (3 credits)

Book List:

R. Ruether, ed., Religion and Sexism
R. Ruether, Liberation Theology
Mary Daly, The Church and the Second Sex

Requirements:

One term paper and one final examination.

Modern Religious & Atheistic Thought/Theism, Atheism, & Secular Thought-Patterns

Religion N443/3
MODERN RELIGIOUS AND ATHEISTIC THOUGHT Not Offered in 1976/77

A historical and critical examination of some of the religious and atheistic thinkers who were pivotal for the self-understanding of modern religious man. The course will focus on these thinkers' understanding of the nature of religion and its role in the modern world. The first semester will examine the attempt of 19th century thinkers to find a natural basis for religion. The second semester will continue the earlier theme as well as analyze how selected 20th century religious thinkers began to struggle again with the category of Revelation. Formative thinkers in both the Jewish and Christian traditions will be discussed. (6 credits)

Religion 495/2, Religion 496/4
RELIGIOUS THINKERS
Staff

In 1976/77 these course numbers will be used for reading courses, under the guidance of a faculty member. (3 credits each)

Religion & Literature/Myth, Parable, Symbol & Metaphor in Selected Literary Works

Religion N341/3
RELIGION AND LITERATURE Not Offered in 1976/77

The course deals with questions raised for the study of religion by works of literature. An account will be given of the recent development of interdisciplinary studies in religion and literature and of the problems of method that have arisen. The relation between the interpretation of religious language, with its use of myth, parable, symbol and metaphor, and literary criticism will be explored. The religious implications, direct and indirect of selected literary works will be discussed. (6 credits)





Comparative Religious Ethics: East & West/Values of Buddhists, Communists, et al.

Religion N435/3

COMPARATIVE RELIGIOUS ETHICS: EAST AND WEST

Not Offered in 1976/77

This course will identify the ways in which different religious and ideological traditions from West and East consider and deal with ethical issues. Examples of such traditions are Navaho, Jewish, Christian, Islamic, Hindu, Buddhist, Confucian, Humanist, Communist. The ethical values and ideals found in these traditions and their influence upon individual life patterns and social organization will be considered. (6 credits)

Religion N331/2

CONTEMPORARY ETHICAL ISSUES: PERSONAL

MWF 9:50-10:40

Religion N332/4

CONTEMPORARY ETHICAL ISSUES: SOCIETAL

Professor Frederick Bird

These two one term courses will look at the relationship between ultimate value commitments and the ways in which people identify and analyze ethical issues arising at the personal level. Issues will be discussed in the context of the interrelationship between moral values and religious convictions. In particular we will look at issues related to Bio-medical ethics, moral issues related to work and leisure, and, family and sex relations.

During the second term, the course will identify and analyze ethical issues arising from social interaction. In discussing the issues, account will be taken of the bearing of religious institutions and traditions on social attitudes and problems and will focus on the theories of justice. In particular the course will cover these topics: the ethics of violence and non-violence, the moral dilemmas related to the problems of scarcity, hunger, and the maldistribution of the world's valued resources, law and morality, and punishment. (3 credits each)

Book List:

Wassertrom, Today's Moral Problems

Wertz, ed. Social and Ethical Issues in Bio-Medicine

Illich, Medical Nemesis

Winter, ed., Social Ethics

Schumacher, Small is Beautiful: Economics As if People Mattered
Technological Society

Requirements:

One term paper and one take-home examination each term.

N.B. Each one-term course may be taken separately.



Religion in Canada/Indians & Eskimos, Catholics, Protestants, Jews, & Humanists

Religion N363/3
RELIGION IN CANADA
Mr. David Rome

Th. 6:15-8:10

The course will survey the phenomenon of religion in Canada by examining the major denominations to which Canadians adhere.

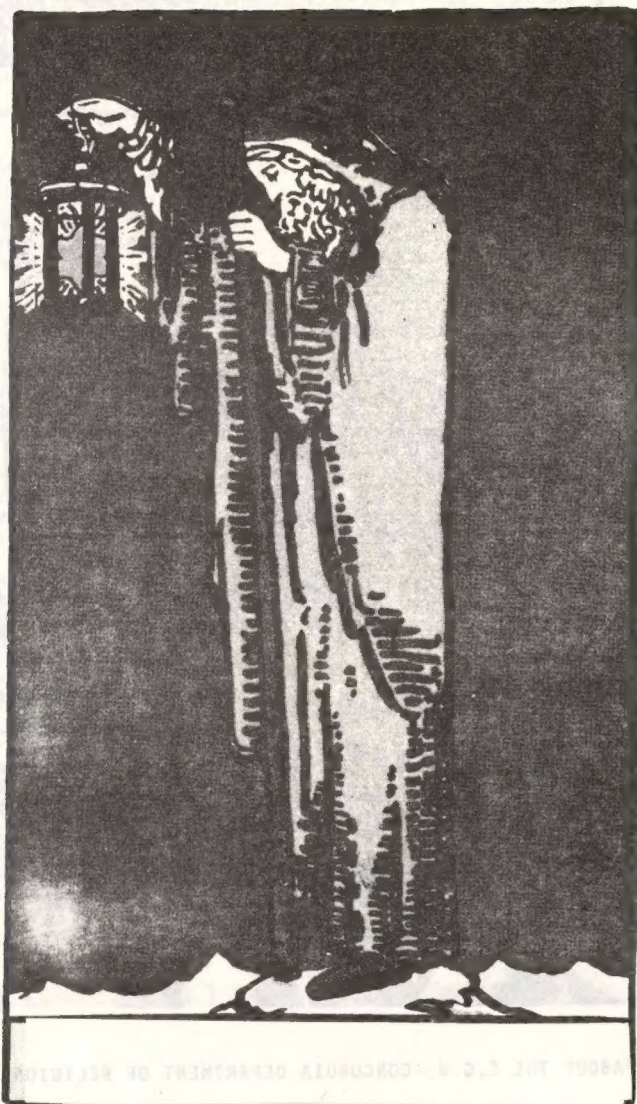
It will examine the creeds and the histories of these churches; their organization and development; their pre-Canadian background. Among the subjects for this examination are: church and state throughout Canadian history; establishment of churches; churches in education—elementary and higher; the churches in the development of the universities; religious scholarship; religion in Canadian schools; the churches and such social institutions as hospitals, nationalisms and trade unions; the geography of religion in Canada; religious architecture and art; ethnicity and religions; national unification; church union; ecumenism; social concern; missionary work among the original inhabitants and white immigrants; Canadian religious presence overseas; religious experience and religion in literature and art; the Jewish society; church orders, congregations and communities. (6 credits)

Book List:

- Wm. Kilbourne, ed., Religion in Canada, Toronto, McClelland & Stewart, 1968.
J.W. Grant, ed., The Churches and the Canadian Experience, Toronto, Ryerson, 1963.
_____, The Church in the Canadian Era, Toronto, McGraw-Hill, 1972.
J.S. Moir, The Church in the British Era, Toronto, McGraw-Hill, 1972, Vol. 2.
H.H. Walsh, The Christian Church in Canada, Toronto, Ryerson, 1956.
Douglas J. Wilson, The Church Grows in Canada, Toronto, Ryerson, 1966.
B.G. Sack, History of the Jews in Canada, Montreal, Harvest House (Vol. 1 all published)



III. ABOUT THE S.G.W.-CONCORDIA DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION



ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

At Sir George Williams Campus the Department of Religion has been, since its creation in the 1950's, a non-denominational academic department of religion. Its concern with the History of Religions includes historical studies in Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism. It is the only Department of Religion in Canada that has integrated into its History of Religion curriculum its Programme in Judaic Studies. In addition, contemporary areas of religious concern form concurrent streams of study in Comparative Ethics, Philosophy of Religion, Religion and Culture, Mystical & Psychical Experience, and Religion & Society

For 1971-74, the Canadian Society for the Study of Religion elected our chairman, Charles Davis, as President of the Society.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME

The Department of Religion offers two Major Programmes (one in Religion; one in Judaic Studies), an Honours Programme in Religion, and Joint Majors and Combined Honours Programmes in Religion & History, Philosophy, Sociology, or English.

KNOWLEDGE OF TWO MAJOR RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS

The department believes that every Major or Honours student in Religion should possess, at time of graduation, a knowledge of at least two major religious traditions. For example, the student who is pursuing a Major in Judaic Studies should take at least one or two courses in a religious tradition other than Judaism. This basic principle reinforces the emphasis upon the centrality of the discipline of the History of Religions. A particular religious tradition can be best understood in the context of the general religious history of mankind.

INDEPENDENT STUDENTS

If you are not a university student, you may enroll in one or more of these courses as an "Independent Student", provided that you are over 21 and meet the prerequisites, if any, for the course(s) you choose. All intelligent public applicants welcomed.

FACULTY

A list of the religion faculty follows below. All hold degrees from universities and/or schools of advanced studies that represent the best academic centers for the study of religion in Canada, the United States, Great Britain and Europe. Several have published books that have made a major contribution to their particular fields of study; all have published in learned journals and have given papers at learned societies. They have also won the reputation among their students for being good teachers, concerned about the quality of instruction at Concordia University, as well as for being a faculty that is "available" and is committed to the development of a more meaningful student life.

FULL TIME FACULTY

Frederick Bird; Charles Davis; Michel Despland;
Ehud Luz; Sheila McDonough; David Miller; Michael Oppenheim;
Alti Rodal; John Rossner

PART-TIME FACULTY

Howard Joseph; Martha Saunders Oppenheim; Marcel Leibovici;
John Lightman; David Rome

Advisor

Religion Major and Honours Program
and Judaic Studies Major Program

Michael Oppenheim Telephone: 879-7253

Independent Student Enquiries

John Rossner 879-7254

SEMINARS AND READING COURSES

The Department of Religion has designed a series of seminar-reading courses, Religion 491-498. Each year at least one of these courses will be offered in a special subject related to an area of research presently being conducted by one of the faculty members. However, other seminars might result from suggestions by students that a subject of their interest which is not normally offered, be taught.

The seminar slots might also be used as "reading courses" for a student who wishes to pursue a programme of independent study; in such a case the student would develop an adequate bibliography and would read under the guidance of a faculty member. Finally, for a few exceptional students, these courses will be used to integrate undergraduate programmes with graduate programmes.

EDUCATIONAL FUNCTION

University education has an important social function independent of the relation of particular subjects to the job market. In the complex and changing culture of our society, it is often no longer possible or necessary to tie at least the first university degree to vocational training. The Department of Religion, then, sees its prime function in this broader context of education.

Vocationally, however, a Major or Honours in Religion could prepare the undergraduate for further education leading to teaching in religion at the high school, CEGEP or university level. A bachelors degree in Religion could also be of benefit for undergraduates who plan careers in social work, law, civil service and other fields for which a Humanities education is needed.

THE BOYD SINYARD AWARD

Each year the Boyd Sinyard award is given to the student in Religion with the highest grade-point average. The award is named after the first chairman of the Department of Religion at Sir George Williams University.

Note: The courses and programs listed in this book are all part of the UNDERGRADUATE curriculum in religion.

The Department of Religion at S.G.W. - Concordia also offers advanced courses and programs leading to the M.A. IN THE HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION, the M.A. IN JUDAIC STUDIES, and the PH.D. IN RELIGION.

For information about these, please write or phone the Secretary, Department of Religion, 2050 Mackay Street, Montreal, Que., H3G 1M8/ (514) 879-4194.

concordia
university



The Department of Religion
SGW Campus - Concordia University
2050 Mackay Street
Montreal, Que., H3G 1M8